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## LATIN AMERICA

## Chileans Act to Prevent Incident with US

The military government in Chile has chosen to avoid a possible diplomatic incident with the US at this time by allowing these Americans to leave the country after they had secretly aided wounded terrorists.

The government also has agreed to grant safe conduct to its American priest similarly involved.

The terrorists, including the two top leaders of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, have sought asylum in two embassies.

The chances for additional diplomatic and political complications are high, since a British missionary doctor and a US

born Chilean priest are in custody in Chile for aiding the terrorists; other members of the clergy are being sought by security forces.

Chile's attitude on the Americans was probably one designed in part to encourage a US abstention on a UN resolution condemning Chile for human rights abuses.

Pinchot clearly would like to avoid leaving an open rift with the Catholic Church. Continued Chilean or foreign clerical involvement with terrorists, even on humanitarian grounds, may well provide a serious government response in the future.

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